



DIRECTIONS

HOW

*To keep Horses and Sheep free from
all manner of Diseases.*

Horses are by Nature hot and dry, but some are more fierce and choleric than others; some are very phlegmatick, some sanguine; and others melancholy; for which reason some are spritely and lively, being swift of motion; others dull and heavy, so consequently slow in motion, having great Bellies and Heads, with dull heavy Eyes. But of the four Humours, generally Heat in Horses does predominate, whence proceeds the brisk, lively, bold, free, and proud Dispositions, whereby they are apt to be forc'd by their Riders and Drivers beyond their real Strength, and from thence their Diseases do proceed, for want of skilful Riding or Driving; for they are in themselves the freest from Distempers, and the healthiest by Nature of any Creature; for in what Creature soever the natural Heat is strong, the Spirit is great, brisk, and powerful; and for this reason they exceed most Creatures in Courage and martial Exercise.

This Heat and Strength in Horses appears further by this: Let the Season of the Year be never so wet or cold, the Grass will bring upon them little or no Inconvenience, tho' they lie out Day and Night, and tho' the same Pasturage will rot Sheep, and make Cows unhealthy; as also that in September or October,

when the Air is moist and thick, and whence arise great Dews, which make the Grass white like Frost, that so turns the Stomachs of Sheep and Cows, that they will not feed till the Sun hath exhal'd the Moisture, unless they be very hungry, and then 'tis bad for them; yet then Horses will feed as cordially as at other times, without hurt: And we find that often People turn diseas'd Horses out all Winter to graze, and give 'em no Hay, &c. which often cures 'em. It is from their great Heat that they eat more than Cows, who are almost as large bodied: Therefore learn first to know their Nature and Temperature, and you'll soon find a Cure for their Distempers.

To prevent Surfeits and other Diseases,

Drive your Horses, or ride 'em, moderately in the Morning, for they generally eat most part of their Food in the Night towards Morning, and drink freely, which does in some kind indispose 'em for Labour, for a full Stomach hinders Motion, so that Nature cannot bear two burthens at once. Exercise is also dangerous if violent, especially on full Stomachs, either in Man or Beast: Let a Man eat plentifully in a morning, and he will be much indispos'd the first part of that Day, and be faint; so are almost all other Creatures. This ought to be minded by all Riders and Drivers of Horses, that they lay no heavier Burthens on 'em than they can well bear; considering with themselves what they could do in this case; so that in this, and other matters, they will be capable to rule, order, and manage their Cattle to advantage; for in Man is contain'd the true Nature of all things. If he would know essentially any thing, first let the same be manifested in himself, and then this Knowledge is true, solid, and certain; but Knowledge that depends on Custom, Chance, Tradition, or the like, is not a Man's own, therefore no great Dependance can be upon it.



When

When *Horses* are hot and tired, to prevent *Surfeits* and other Diseases, rub them down well, then tie them to the Rack for an hour or two, according as their weariness may be, all this while giving them no Meat or Drink, but keep rubbing 'em now and then: when they have rested, and are pretty cool, let them have Meat and Water; some warm the Water a little, but give not so much as they can eat or drink till they have rested well, and recover'd their natural Strength, Heat and Spirit; for nothing is more hurtful, to Man or Beast, than fulness, and much eating and drinking upon weariness. For instance; let a Man but sit still when tired and hot, shut his Eyes, keep himself warm, and take a little Nap for an hour or two, he will find himself refresh'd, his Appetite strong, and he better dispos'd for Exercise than by any other way I know of.

By reason Heat abounds in Horses, they ought not to be kept in close Stables, for that is very prejudicial to 'em; besides, the steam of Urine, Dung, &c. infects their Blood, and sends into their Feet and Legs a hot salt Humour that hinders its circulation, dulls the Appetite, &c. whence proceed *Tenderness*, *short Breath*, and at length they become *broken-winded*.

All these Diseases Horses that lie in the open Air are not subject to; therefore let all Stables have large open Windows on all sides, that so the steam may pass away; which will much refresh 'em, and strengthen their Stomach, causing a good quick Digestion.

I am credibly inform'd, That a Gentleman who keeps the best Horses for Labour and Hunting in all *Yorkshire*, uses only Hovels, cover'd on the top and open at the sides, that they may eat their Meat dry, and lets 'em run loose where they please.

And those that will keep a Horse in the Field after this manner, and another in a close Stable, will find that the Horse kept in the Field will outdo that kept in the Stable as to Labour, and be freer from Diseases.

Observe likewise, that Saddle-Horses, &c. ought not always to have Hay in their Racks, nor Corn in the Manger, but ought to be kept five, six, seven, or eight hours without either, which will quicken their Stomachs, create Hunger, and breed good Blood.

Give not Cattle too much Meat at a time, so they will eat what they have clean up, and their Stomachs and Palates remain in order; for Fulness stupifies their Senses, heats the Blood, thickens it, and makes them lazy, short-breath'd, and subject to many other Diseases. *Consider with thy self, O Man! and tell me whether thou dost not experience this to be true in thy self.*

When your Horse has been rid hard or work'd give him a little Water warm about two hours before you give him Meat, but let him not drink to the full. Also rubbing down Horses with a wisp of Straw when hot, is better than walking them.

As for Horses and Cows kept where Grains are part of their Food, there ought to be some Salt mix'd now and then among 'em, which dries up moist Humors, prevents windy and watery Humors, or the Rot, Salt being of a warm and dry quality.

Stables are pernicious to Mares with foal; their Colts ought to run in the Fields with their Dams till they wean themselves, which will be near a Year first. These Rules observ'd, your Horses will seldom want bleeding or drenching.

Horses Food.

Rick-Hay of 6 or 9 months old, cut every day out of the Rick, is better than that in Barns or Houses; and all Cattle will like it before others, especially Sheep, by reason it has the benefit of the Air, which keeps it spirituous and living. Horses Food is likewise Corn in the Straw; 'tis much better than what is only thresh't, or both thresh't and cleans'd; for Corn when cleans'd is too hot for the Blood, obstructs the passage, and so makes 'em short-winded. On the contrary, Pease, Barley, Vetches, Beans, and Oats given in the Straw, are strong and hearty; the Straw cleanses the Sto-

Stomach and Blood, makes 'em drink freely, and prevents *Gripes* or *Plague* in the Guts.

Oats are the chiefest Food for Horses, because two thirds are Chaff ; and tho' the chaffy part be separated, as it is in Oatmeal, it would prove as hurtful as any green Wheat, and stop and heat the Blood ; for the flour of all Grain is glutinative and obstructive ; and in Straw, Chaff, and Bran is contain'd the opening, cleansing, and digestive Property. Thresh't Corn of any sort is good Food for working Horses that go at Grass all the Winter. Let 'em lie out a nights, so give 'em Corn in the morning before they go to work, and again at night.

Put the Stable-Horses to Grafts from the middle of *May* to the end of *June* or *July*, for the Grass is full of Life, and of a cleansing quality, purging and carrying off the Humours that are contracted in Winter. The Air also purifies the Blood, and helps the Feet and Legs, and other Diseases caus'd by hot Stables.

Water for Horses.

River-water is better than Spring or Pump-water. Next is Spring or Pump-water, then Pond or Rain-water ; but that Water that has any taste or smell is not good, except the airy taste. And as for Pond-water, tho' Cattle will chuse it soonest, being warmest of all other, yet it is not so good nor wholsom, for Reasons I have not room to shew.



To order Sheep, and secure 'em from the Rott.

Sheep are said to be moderately hot and moist, in Complexion phlegmatick and sanguine, with a mixture of melancholy, and if they exceed in any of the four Humours, 'tis in Moisture ; for they are po-

rows, and when the Air is moist, or too much wet happens, 'tis prejudicial to them ; for this reason they can forbear Water longer than many other Creatures.

Sheep cannot endure any kind of Extreams without prejudice, so that if they are drove too hard when the weather is hot, or be coursed by a Dog, or if their Keepers suffer 'em to lie down when they are hot, and this be done often, it will make 'em break out with Scabs or Mange when they go into fresh Pasturage, or about *Michaelmas*. Likewise if they are folded too close, it will occasion the same Distemper : Or if in Summer time and hot weather the Shepherd moves 'em too often out of one place into another, especially in the heat of the Day, it will keep 'em from thriving, and also occasion the same Distemper.

So likewise much Wet will rot 'em, for which reason Shepherds ought to be skilful Men, to preserve this Creature.

Let Shepherds, in dry Summers, who keep them in fallow Fields or on Downs, when Grass is scarce, and they have no keeping for them but what those miserable Commons afford, turn their Sheep out betimes in the Morning, for then is the Air moist, cooling, and refreshing.

Mind the Situation of your Fields, and in the Morning walk 'em gently on the highest and dryest parts. Or if there be Corn-fields or moist Pasturage, feed them on the edges thereof for 3 or 4 hours till they begin to be weary, and the heat of the Day comes on, but be sure use no Violence to 'em, for that will do more harm than good. About ten or eleven a-Clock turn 'em from the edges of such Pasturage or Corn-Fields into the Valleys or Clay-ground, as the place does afford, and there let 'em lie at large, and at the greatest ease you can, so the less Food they will want. This Method observe from the latter end of *May* to *August*, if hot and dry weather last so long, for it will prevent Scab and Mange towards *Michaelmas*, or when they come to fresh Pasturage.

As

As to Shearing-time, I think the latter end of *May* or beginning of *June* the best, as to Health, tho' not for the Profit of Wool.

Sheep thrive better after they are shorn than before; and if the latter end of the Summer be dry and hot, there is but little Grass; if wet, and the Sheep newly shorn, they will be cold and uneasie, and the Grass nourishes 'em but little. Sheep well kept in the beginning of the Year will be much better able to go thro' a hard Season, which often happens in the end of Summer, *viz.* in *August* and *September*, as Cows will (if well kept) give more Milk in Summer than those hardly kept.

If the Summer prove wet about *June* or *July*, mind whether your Field is subject to the Rott or no, for Wet is a much greater Foe to Sheep than Drought, tho' Extreams of both are bad; therefore let your Sheep continue in the Fold till 7 or 8 in the morning, or longer if the morning is moist, for by that time the Sun may have exhal'd the moist Vapours, so the Grass will be more wholesome, and by lying still, their Stomachs will be the better. Also observe to fold your Sheep before the Dew falls, and that will prevent many Inconveniencies. Sheep care not for feeding in a morning while the Dew is on the ground except in times of scarcity, and then they should be fed with dry Food, as Hay, Corn, &c. or kept fasting.

These Rules observ'd, will prevent any Distempers Sheep are subject to, the greatest part whereof are occasion'd thro' want of Order and Skill, as heats, colds, over-wet Weather, being folded on new-plow'd moist Grounds, or for want of a little Hay in the latter end of Summer, as *July*, *August*, and *September*, when the Weather proves wet and cold.

And tho' your Pasturage will not rot Sheep, yet it may and does often cause other fatal Diseases of the Gall, Jaundice, Choler, and Sickness coming of tough Phlegm, Water in the Belly, Redwater, Coughs, pain in the Joints, lameness in the Feet, and many others;

to

to cure all which, read *Markham's Masterpiece*, *Lambert of Cattle*, *Johnson's Thousand more Notable Things*, and *the Way to save Wealth*, all 4 Books sold at the Ring in Little Britain.

Observe also that after a Summer of scarcity, when your Sheep enter fresh Pasture where is plenty, let 'em not eat as much as they will, but only bait 'em, and so turn 'em out; having had time to digest their Food, turn 'em in again. Do this for a Week, &c. as you see convenient, and if your Sheep don't thrive so well as others that eat their fill, yet at last they'll be as likely, and much freer from Diseases. Remember that from *Midsummer* to *Michaelmas* is the most dangerous part of the Year; but the most hazardous time for Rott is from *July* to the end of *September*, especially if Floods and moist foggy Air happen.

The Rott, some say, is occasion'd by licking up Snails, some say Dews, and others say other things; but 'tis certain it proceeds from too much moisture at the Season before mention'd; for they seldom rot at any other part of the Year, tho' there be the same occasion. As for example; Suppose wet Weather comes in after *Michaelmas*, as in *December* or *January*, and so continues the rest of the Winter, yet this will not rot Sheep except in moorish Grounds, where they have store of Grass, and lie Night and Day, having no Hay given 'em. Or if Rains come in *January*, *February*, *March*, or *April*, and hold till the latter end of *May*, and a dry Summer follows, this will not cause a Rott, except in a few low Grounds some may be infected.

So it plainly appears, that from the latter end of *July* to the end of *September* or *October* is the chief time for the Rott, if the Season prove wet.

I question not but Sheep may rot, or have watery Diseases, in Winter as well as Autumn, but then it must be those that lie night and day in marshy or low Grounds, living chiefly on Grass, which in all wet seasons (without some Hay) is dangerous. Some hold there is a Spring-Rott sometimes, but very seldom, and

and the Cause has been a wet Winter and no Hay given 'em, or they have fed in low wet Grounds, or else they have been touch'd the *Michaelmas* before.

Therefore observe when Rains happen about *July*, *August*, or *September*, or when 'tis a wet Summer, and continues so till toward *Michaelmas*, that then a general Rott is fear'd.

Some Directions to prevent the Rott.

1. Keep your Sheep in the Fold till 8 or 9 a. Clock in the Forenoon, or longer, according as the Season is wet or dry; if dewy Mornings, keep 'em till the Sun has pretty well exhal'd the Dew, then put 'em to feed on the highest Ground where 'tis dryest, and if it prove a fine Day, you may about Noon feed 'em in the low Grounds for 2 or 3 hours; when 'tis Evening put 'em again in the high places, and be sure fold 'em before the Dews fall, but let it be on dry Ground, for the moist Vapours are very injurious.

2. If it rain most part of the day, you ought to give your Sheep a little Hay night and morning, which is good against this Disease and many others. Dry Food is proper at all times for Sheep, but especially in wet weather, and ought to be given 'em once a day all the Months before mention'd; as also 3 or 4 times a week (either at Night or in the Morning) Oats in Straw, or Pease and Barley, and is an excellent Preservative. If your Grain be thresh'd, mix some Salt with it.

Another Prevention of the Rott.

Make large Sheds, or low wide Houses, open on all sides to house your Sheep in wet and cold weather. In *Flanders*, when it is wet, they keep 'em in the House all day, giving 'em Hay; at all times they keep them housed till the Dews are dry'd up by the Sun, folding 'em before the Evening Dews fall.

Mind these Rules in time, before the Rott seizes 'em, lest they die. When 3 or 4 Days, or a Week, of dry weather happens you need give 'em Hay but once every other day, or a few Oats or other Grain, either in the Straw or thresh't, mixt with a little Salt, as you see

fee occasion ; and I would with 4 or 5 Load of Hay of a year old, and a few Oats or other Grain, preserve 300 or 400 Sheep from the Rott, without any other measures than is here laid down.

Those Countries where Sheep are subject to Rott, wou'd do well to change their Sheep every 2, 3, or 4 Years, for Hill-country ones ; they will thrive much better, and not be so liable to Diseases.

How to Cure the Rott in Sheep.

Take Coriander-seed and Grains of each an ounce, long Pepper one handful, Savin half a handful ; boil these in Ale, give to every Sheep 3 spoonfuls blood-warm ; keep the Sheep fasting the Night before, and three hours after they be drench'd : If any Ews be with Young, leave out the Savin, and put in Rye-bread crumb'd as much as an Egg, put thereto a pint of the best Oil when 'tis off the Fire, so stir it well, and give 'em Hay oft when you use it. You may give this to 200 of them. *W. M.*

The following Receipt having Cured divers Cattel infected with the Distemper which happen'd in 1715, 'tis here inserted for publick Good.

THE Distemper is suppos'd to be a malignant Fever or Plague in the Bowels, and that it is infectious. Take of *Paul's Betony* and *round Birthwort* each 8 handfuls ; if not to be had, two ounces of the Root of *Lungwort* ; *Hyssop* and *Scordium* (or *Water-Germaner*) of each 4 handfuls ; of *Gentian-root*, *Angelica*, *Butterburr*, *Tormentil*, *Carline*, and *Thistle-roots*, of each half a pound ; of *Bay-berries* and *Juniper-berries* each 12 ounces : Beat all to powder and mix 'em. When your Cattle is taken ill, bleed 'em 12 hours before you give this Remedy, which do in the following manner : Give 'em an ounce at a time for 3 or 4 mornings together, then rest 3 or 4 days and repeat it again dissolv'd in a pint of lukewarm Water, so let 'em rest an hour or two, giving 'em moderate Exercise.

For

For an inward Sickness in Cattle.

If the Disease can't be found out, take two pints of Ale, of Wormwood, Rosemary, and Rue each a handful, bruise all in a Mortar, then boil 'em a little; strain the Herbs out very well, and add two spoonfuls of the Juice of Garlick, the like of Juice of Housleek, and as much London Treacle: Mix 'em together and give it lukewarm to your Beasts, and they'l mend quickly.

A good Receipt to purge Cattle.

Before you put your Cattle to Grass in the Spring, keep 'em a week in the House, giving them Cinnamon or Hartshorn and common Salt boil'd together; also give 'em Tar, Butter, Honey, Brow-Sugarcandy, and the Leaves of Laurel powder'd, either in Balls or in warm Water; and when they come from Grass bleed 'em, and give 'em a handful of Rue in a pint of warm Ale. This is call'd the Preserver of Health to any Cattle.

Of B E E S.

A Late Author affirms, that the *Drone Bee* is the Male, and that his Business is to sit upon and hatch the Eggs, and nourish the Young, whilst the Females follow their Work; and, that he was made without a Sting, and is of the same Species of other Bees, differing only in Sex; and, that you may compare the male to a Man, and the female to a Woman; so that the male Bee or *Drone* is absolutely necessary to the breeding of Bees, managing the Young while the female or Honey-Bee goes abroad to gather Honey; all the while they are gone the Drone stirs not from the Brood; but about 1 or 2 a-Clock the female Bee returning home, she takes his post, and gives him liberty to fly abroad to recreate himself. If you observe, the Drones fly about the Hives, and recreate and empty themselves; then they return again to their Hives, and are kindly receiv'd, especially in



May

May and June, for that's the chief time of breeding : Therefore I caution *Bee-masters* against the unhappy Error of killing the Drones as fast as they can, for by this means they hinder their Breed, and damage or utterly destroy their whole Hives ; but they had better kill six Honey (or female) Bees than one Drone, in *May or June* ; for 'tis as if they would encrease animal Creatures by destroying the Males : And indeed the Male or Drone is but short-life'd at best, therefore spare him, and he will make you amends. 'Tis a gross Error to say the Drones have lost their Sting, so grow idle, and live by robbing.

He also affirms, That Bees live not above a Year or 14 Months at most. Some will say, *This Hive is two Years old already*, and forthwith kill 'em ; whereas the Bees they destroy are as young as those that were in the Hive the year before, the old Bees being all dead before they took this merciless course with 'em ; for the Bees they kill'd were all young, and would have done as much service every year, and encreas'd both the number of Stocks and Honey.

How to feed Bees.

In *September* and *April* poise your Hive, and if it weigh 20 pound or more, it needs not help. But if you find store of Bees and little Honey in *September*, then consider what Nourishment they may want till next Spring, and give it 'em in a large Dish or Plate every day till they have their full quantity. Observe this method ; get 6 or 7 pound of Honey and a pint of Water, so let it melt over a Fire ; when well melted and stir'd together, pour it into the Dish or Plate, and when cold put it under the Bees thus ; if the Dish holds 16 ounces, with a piece of white Paper cover the greatest part of the Honey in the Plate, then lift up one side of your Hive and slide the Plate under ; do thus daily till they have the quantity you allot 'em, and observe next morning if the Dish comes dry as if nothing had been in it. Thus they carry and lay it up in their Combs against they need it. Feeding 'em with Kexes, by often coming down they are chill'd, so frequently put Life to an End.